

REMARKS

Rejection of Claims 4, 6, 9, 11, 24, 26, 27, 29, 66-70, and 72-74 based on 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 4, 6, 9, 11, 24, 26, 27, 29, 66-70, and 72-74 were rejected on the assertion that they are unpatentable over Bona et al., in view of Kuchroo et al. However, the Examiner acknowledged that this rejection would be withdrawn if Applicant amended the claims to provide that the compositions prevent T cell activation *in vivo* and if Applicant submitted a Declaration demonstrating that compositions comprising a T cell receptor antagonist derived from a protein other than PLP were able to prevent T cell activation.

As the Examiner suggested, Applicants have amended the claims to provide that the claimed compositions prevent T cell activation *in vivo*.

Applicants provide herewith a Declaration demonstrating that compositions which comprise a T cell receptor antagonist derived from MBP protein are able to prevent T cell activation *in vivo*. Accordingly, as suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have demonstrated that the prevention of T cell activation *in vivo* can be achieved using antagonists derived from proteins other than PLP.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now fully in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or would like more information, he is invited to telephone the undersigned.

The specific changes to the specification and the amended claims are shown on a separate set of pages attached hereto and entitled **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**, which follows the signature page of this Amendment. On this set of pages, the insertions are double underlined while the deletions are stricken through.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: _____

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

66. (Five times amended) A composition comprising an immunoglobulin or a portion thereof linked to a protein fragment or peptide, wherein said immunoglobulin or portion thereof is capable of binding to an Fc receptor and said protein fragment or peptide comprises a T cell receptor antagonist, said composition having the property of being endocytosed by cells bearing said Fc receptor and processed by the cells to present said T cell receptor antagonist in association with endogenous MHC Class II molecules, thereby preventing T cell activation *in vivo*.